Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 AID-05 //068 R

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DRAFTED BY AF/W:JLEWIS:GAR APPROVED BY AF:RMMOOSE NSC:DCLIFT S/S:LFERRAR

-----016986 220642Z/21

R 212038Z JUN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BANJUL INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU AMEMBASSY BAMAKO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, GA, US

SUBJECT: GAMBIAN PRESIDENT CALLS ON VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE JUNE 7, 1978

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1. PRESIDENT JAWARA, AT THE END OF A PRIVATE VISIT TO THE U.S. IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT PRO TEM OF THE CILSS WAS RECEIVED BY VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE ON JUNE 7. JAWARA WAS ACCOMPANIED BY GAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER JABANG, CILSS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ALI CISSE, PERMANENT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, EBOU TAAL, AND FRANCIS M'BOGE SECRETARY GENERAL. AMBASSADOR HERMAN COHEN AND ASSISTANT AID ADMINISTRATOR GOLER BUTCHER, AND AFW DIRECTOR ALSO ATTENDED.

- 2. VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE EMPHASIZED U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE SAHEL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND NOTED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAD ASKED FOR \$90 MILLION FOR FY 79 FOR THE PROGRAM. HE ADDED THOUGH THE HOUSE HAD REDUCED THE AMOUNT TO \$60 MILLION, THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD PRESS HARD FOR RESTORATION OF THE FULL AMOUNT.
- 3. JAWARA THANKED THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT AND SAID THAT HE HAD FOUND CONSIDERABLE UNDERSTANDING IN THE U.S. FOR THE SAHEL PROBLEMS, NOTING THAT

THE U.S. PROVIDED SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF EMERGENCY FOOD AID FOR THE SAHEL, HE SAID THAT THE SAHEL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WOULD REDUCE AND EVENTUALLY ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THIS TYPE OF FOOD ASSISTANCE BY CONTROLLING THE SAHEL'S CYCLICAL DROUGHT PROBLEM. JAWARA SAID THAT WITH THE PROPER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS THE SAHEL'S WATER RESOURCES COULD BE HARNESSED.

4. VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AND PRESIDENT JAWARA ALSO DISCUSSED CROP AND SEED RESEARCH IN THE SAHEL. THE VICE PRESIDENT NOTED THE DESIRABILITY OF INVOLVING U.S. LAND GRANT COLLEGES IN THIS RESEARCH. VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE CONFIDENTIAL

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CLOSED THE MEETING BY SAYING THAT HE WAS PLEASED THE GAMBIAN PRESIDENT HAD INVITED MISS LILLIAN TO VISIT THE GAMBIA AND OTHER SAHELIAN STATES IN JULY. HE PRAISED MISS LILLIAN FOR HER EARLY SUPPORT OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE SOUTH. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: PRESIDENT, MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 21 jun 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE157895
Document Source: CDR

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: JLEWIS:GAR Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D780260-0038

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780634/aaaabdjl.tel

Line Count: 97 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e2333984-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 22 apr 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:**

Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2260339 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: GAMBIAN PRESIDENT CALLS ON VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE JUNE 7, 1978 CONFIDENTIAL

TAGS: EAID, GA, US, (JAWARA, DAWDA KAIRABA), (MONDALE, WALTER F)

To: BANJUL Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e2333984-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014